

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

Please enter the following amendments without prejudice or disclaimer.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended): A method for preventing a symptom of herpes simplex virus infection in an individual who has been exposed to herpes simplex virus, comprising administering a composition comprising a polynucleotide comprising an immunostimulatory sequence (ISS) to ~~[[said]]~~ an individual exposed to herpes simplex virus, wherein the ISS comprises the sequence 5'-C, G-3', wherein the polynucleotide comprises a phosphate backbone modification, wherein the polynucleotide is greater than 6 nucleotides and less than about 200 nucleotides in length, wherein a herpes simplex virus antigen is not administered in conjunction with administration of said composition, wherein the individual is a human and wherein said composition is administered prior to three days after virus exposure in an amount sufficient to prevent a symptom of herpes simplex virus infection.
2. (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein the ISS comprises the sequence 5'-T, C, G-3'.
3. (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein the ISS comprises the sequence 5'-purine, purine, C, G, pyrimidine, pyrimidine, C, G-3' or 5'-purine, purine, C, G, pyrimidine, pyrimidine, C, C-3'.
4. (Original): The method of claim 3, wherein the ISS comprises a sequence selected from the group consisting of 5'-AACGTTCC-3', 5'-AACGTTTCG-3', 5'-GACGTTCC-3' and 5'-GACGTTTCG-3'.
5. (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein the ISS comprises the sequence 5'-TGA CTGTGAACGTTTCGAGATGA-3' (SEQ ID NO:1).

6. (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein the ISS comprises the sequence 5'-TCGTCGAACGTTTCGTTAACGTTTCG-3' (SEQ ID NO:9).

7. (Canceled)

8. (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein administration is at a site of infection.

9. (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein the herpes simplex virus is a herpes simplex virus 2 (HSV-2) virus.

10. (Currently Amended): A method of reducing severity of a symptom of herpes simplex virus infection in an individual infected with herpes simplex virus, comprising administering a composition comprising a polynucleotide comprising an immunostimulatory sequence (ISS) to said individual, wherein the ISS comprises the sequence 5'-C, G-3', wherein the polynucleotide comprises a phosphate backbone modification, wherein the polynucleotide is greater than 6 nucleotides and less than about 200 nucleotides in length, wherein a herpes simplex virus antigen is not administered in conjunction with administration of said composition, wherein the individual is a human and wherein said composition is parenterally administered in an amount sufficient to reduce severity of a symptom of herpes simplex virus infection.

11. (Original): The method of claim 10, wherein the ISS comprises the sequence 5'-T, C, G-3'.

12. (Original): The method of claim 10, wherein the ISS comprises the sequence 5'-purine, purine, C, G, pyrimidine, pyrimidine, C, G-3' or 5'-purine, purine, C, G, pyrimidine, pyrimidine, C, C-3'.

13. (Original): The method of claim 12, wherein the ISS comprises a sequence selected from the group consisting of 5'-AACGTTCC-3', 5'-AACGTTTCG-3', 5'-GACGTTCC-3' and 5'-GACGTTTCG-3'.

14. (Original): The method of claim 10, wherein the ISS comprises the sequence 5'-TGACTGTGAACGTTTCGAGATGA-3' (SEQ ID NO:1).

15. (Original): The method of claim 10, wherein the ISS comprises the sequence 5'-TCGTCTGAACGTTTCGTTAACGTTTCG-3' (SEQ ID NO:9).

16. (Original): The method of claim 10, wherein the composition is administered in an amount sufficient to reduce the level of viral shedding.

17.-18. (Canceled)

19. (Original): The method of claim 10, wherein the herpes simplex virus is a herpes simplex virus 2 (HSV-2) virus.

20. (Currently Amended): A method of reducing recurrence of a symptom of herpes simplex virus infection in an individual infected with herpes simplex virus, comprising administering a composition comprising a polynucleotide comprising an immunostimulatory sequence (ISS) to said individual, wherein the ISS comprises the sequence 5'-C, G-3', wherein the polynucleotide comprises a phosphate backbone modification, wherein the polynucleotide is greater than 6 nucleotides and less than about 200 nucleotides in length, wherein a herpes simplex virus antigen is not administered in conjunction with administration of said composition, wherein the individual is a human and wherein said composition is parenterally administered in an amount sufficient to reduce recurrence of a symptom of herpes simplex virus infection.

21. (Original): The method of claim 20, wherein the ISS comprises the sequence 5'-T, C, G-3'.

22. (Original): The method of claim 20, wherein the ISS comprises the sequence 5'-purine, purine, C, G, pyrimidine, pyrimidine, C, G-3' or 5'-purine, purine, C, G, pyrimidine, pyrimidine, C, C-3'.

23. (Original): The method of claim 22, wherein the ISS comprises a sequence selected from the group consisting of 5'-AACGTTCC-3', 5'-AACGTTTCG-3', 5'-GACGTTCC-3' and 5'-GACGTTTCG-3'.

24. (Previously presented): The method of claim 20, wherein the ISS comprises the sequence  
5'-TGA CTGTGAACGTTTCGAGATGA-3' (SEQ ID NO:1).

25. (Original): The method of claim 20, wherein the ISS comprises the sequence  
5'-TCGTCGAACGTTTCGTTAACGTTTCG-3' (SEQ ID NO:9).

26.-27. (Canceled)

28. (Original): The method of claim 20, wherein the herpes simplex virus is a herpes simplex virus 2 (HSV-2) virus.

29.-39. (Canceled)